

REMARKS

Applicants have added claims 24-26 to round out the scope of the claims. Support for the claims may be found at least at page 34, lines 14-20, and page 36, lines 5-20, of applicants' specification.

Claims 1-5 and 12-14 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Hirst (U.S. Patent No. 5,930,553) and applicants' admitted prior art (hereinafter, "AAPA"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite "first destination information, comprising a shipment destination, to be used to control a printing operation by a control system of the main body of the image forming device, wherein the shipment destination is configured to identify a predetermined set of printing parameters stored in the control system, ... and process control information to be used to further control the printing operation by altering or replacing at least one of the predetermined printing parameters," as disclosed at least at paragraphs [0088] through [0096] of applicants' specification. Neither Hirst nor AAPA, alone or in combination, discloses or suggests such features.

As recited in claim 1, a process cartridge stores a shipment destination code which is used by a control system to determine which set of printing parameters should be used (applicants' specification indicates that one such printing parameter may be a reference voltage). As disclosed in AAPA, such codes previously created difficulty in that any change in the printing parameters (due to changes in materials or improvements following the shipment of the main bodies) would require a service technician to reprogram the control system of a main body. However, claim 1 further recites storing process control information which is used to alter or replace at least one of the printing parameters, a feature not disclosed or suggested by either AAPA or Hirst (which merely discloses identification information). Using the process control information to override one of the printing parameters allows a printing parameters to be customized to each process cartridge even

after control systems are shipped without the need to have a service technician reprogram the control systems. Accordingly, printing can be optimized without increasing cost to a customer. Furthermore, different versions of cartridges can be used with a main body such that a customer is not required to use only one version of a cartridge or to cope with un-optimized printing.

Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable. Claim 12 recites features substantially similar to those of claim 1, detailed above, and is allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Claims 2-5, 13 and 14 depend from allowable and are allowable due at least to their respective dependencies.

Claims 6 and 7 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Hirst and AAPA in further view of Official Notice. The Examiner's Official Notice of data stored in Hexadecimal format does not overcome the deficiencies of Hirst and AAPA noted above. Accordingly, claims 6 and 7, which depend from allowable claim 1, are allowable due at least to their respective dependencies.

Claims 8-11 and 15 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Miyamoto (U.S. Patent No. 5,701,402) in view of AAPA and Ueno (U.S. Patent No. 6,144,812). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants have amended claim 8 to recite features substantially similar to those of claim 1 detailed above. Miyamoto, which was cited as disclosing a detachable process cartridge, and Ueno, which was recited as disclosing a first unused address, both fail to overcome the deficiencies of AAPA discussed above. Accordingly, claim 8 is allowable. Claims 9-11 and 15 depend from claim 8, and are allowable due at least to their respective dependencies.

Claims 16-18 and 20 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Hirst in view of AAPA and Ueno. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

None of the cited references discloses the above discussed features of the independent claims. Accordingly, claims 16-18 and 20 are allowable due at least to their respective dependencies.

Claims 21 and 23 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Hirst in view of AAPA and Applegate (U.S. Patent No. 5,995,774). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applegate, which was cited only as disclosing a detachable cartridge, fails to overcome the deficiencies of Hirst and AAPA detailed above. Accordingly, claims 21 and 23 are allowable due at least to their respective dependencies.

Claim 22 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Miyamoto in view of AAPA, Ueno and Applegate. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

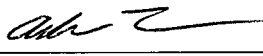
None of the cited references discloses the above discussed features of the independent claims. Accordingly, claim 22 is allowable due at least to its dependency.

Applicants solicit an early action allowing claims 1-23.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief, including extensions of time, and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing Docket No. **204552021000**.

Dated: September 11, 2007

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